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Move to raise govt service age-limit rejected

By A Staff Reporter

Jatiya Sangsad on Thursday rejected a resolution proposing to raise the maximum age limit for entering government services from 27 to 32.

Independent member Nurul Islam Moni (Borguna-2) moved the resolution.

Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud, who has been entrusted with the responsibility of handling the Affairs of the Ministry of Establishment in the

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## Govt service age-limit

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Jatiya Sangsad, opposed the resolution on the plea that if the age limit was raised as proposed, the training facilities, imperative for the officials, would have to be curtailed drastically.

He, however, said that the maximum age limit for entering government services had been raised from 25 to 27 after independence taking into consideration the loss sustained during the war of liberation.

Again in December, 1964, the Foreign Minister said, the age limit had been raised beyond 27 years for freedom fighters, women and schedule caste members. Besides, he said, in another order issued later the age limit had been raised to 30 for general education, technical education, health and family planning and judicial cadres of Bangladesh Civil Service.

Speaking on the problems in education sector, Mr. Mahmud said that raising age-limit for entering government services would not solve problems in the education sector. An end to session jam, strikes, effective change in the examination system and increase in production could help solve those problems, he felt.

The Foreign Minister said that there should be an overall consensus to restore a congenial

atmosphere in the education and economic sectors.

Barring Mr. Nurul Islam Moni, five opposition members including Leader of the Opposition A.S.M. Abdur Rab, Mr. Shahjahan Siraj, Mr. Dabir Uddin Joarder, Mr. Abdul Hye, Mr. M.A. Gofran, and Mr. Rabbiul Hasan participated in the discussion on the resolution.

Mr. Rab speaking in favour of the resolution said that a substantial number of government posts were lying vacant when the rate of unemployment among the educated youths was extremely high.

Criticising the existing education system, the leader of the opposition said that the government had failed to introduce an education system that helped educate people to be self-reliant.

Mr. Shahjahan Siraj stressed on the introduction of a vocational and self-employment oriented education system.

Moving his resolution, Mr. Nurul Islam Moni said that educated youths were utterly frustrated as there was no sense of direction before them. They had now become a burden on the society.

Arguing in favour of raising the age limit for entering the government services, the independent member quoting the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University said that Dhaka University had been closed for four and a half years during last seven years. "Under such a situation, when a student comes out of the university, no way is left open for him than becoming a burden on his family as well on the society," he said.

Mr. Moni alleged that when educated youths were deprived of employments, [retired personnel were employed] in government services on contract basis

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